**Transfer of an Executive of STC**

1659. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an executive of the State Trading Corporation, who with the help of another journalist member of the Newsprint Purchasing Committee of STC, has been transferred for exposing import fraud in the STC; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) and (b) In January, 1992 an executive of STC was transferred at the instance of two former Directors who levelled allegations against the concerned executive. However, after completion of an enquiry, it was found that the allegations levelled against the executive were not substantiated.

**Manufacturing Facilities by Foreign Companies**

1660. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Electronics have identified certain foreign leading companies for providing manufacturing facilities in India;

(b) if so, what are the names of those foreign companies;

(c) whether the above companies have agreed to provide manufacturing facilities in India; and

(d) if so, what are their terms and conditions in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) The Department of Electronics had preliminary discussions with some of the international companies known to have technological edge in the area of electronics. These discussions were to explore the possibility of their setting up manufacturing operations in India.

So far proposals of a few international companies have been cleared by the Government of India. These include the proposals : (i) M/s Tata Industries Limited for a joint venture with IBM, World Trade Corporation for setting up a computer manufacturing and software development facility; (ii) M/s Motorola for software developments; and (iii) M/s Wearnes Hollingsworth for manufacture of components; and (iv) M/s RPG electronics with Gold Star Limited of the Republic of Korea for consumer electronics. The terms and conditions, by and large, are as per the accepted norms of the Government of India.

**Curbing Software Piracy**

1661. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state : the steps being taken to curb the increasing practice of software piracy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : Various measures taken by the Department of Electronics to curb software piracy are given below :—

(i) All the major government users have been advised to use only licenced copies of software products.

(ii) The Department of Electronics has been closely interacting with the Manufacturers Association for Information & Technology (MAIT) and National Association of Software & Service Companies (NASSCOM), as a result of this a non-profit company Indian Federation Against Software Theft (INFAST) has been formed under Section 25 of Companies Act, with the objective to render protection against software piracy to Indian and foreign software products.

(iii) A Monitoring Committee on Software Piracy has been constituted with the following objectives :—

(A) To see that the provisions of the Copyright Act so far as software is concerned are vigorously implemented.

(B) To take initiative for conducting studies and monitoring the status of use of legitimate software.

(C) To promote action to meet the needs of users as regards prices of popular software packages.

(iv) In the Copyright Act (Amendment) Bill No. 105 of 1992 provisions have been made to deter and check the use of pirated software.

(v) All States and Union Territories have been suggested to make appropriate amendments in their Police Acts to empower representatives of INFAST and Industry Association to act as Special Police Officers, for the specific purpose of implementing the relevant provisions of the Copyright Act against Software Piracy.

(vi) To bring down the prices of imported Software Packages, authorised duplication of these packages has been allowed. Duty will be paid on the master copy required for the duplication. The duplication done in the country will not attract any excise duty. Also, no custom duty will be leviable on the royalty paid on the duplicated copies of the software.

**Joint Venture Projects in the Pipeline**

1662. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of the Joint Ventures Projects in Electronics sector that are in pipeline ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : The details of joint venture proposals in electronics sector received by the Department of Electronics are given in the statement attached.

**Statement**

| Sl. No. | Name of the Party | Item of manufacture | Foreign Collaborator |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | M/s. Philips Medical System (PMS) India Pvt. Ltd., Bombay. | Installation, maintenance, technical support and sales, marketing and servicing of Philips range of medical electronic diagnostic and therapentic equipments and systems. | M/s. Philips Systems International B. V. The Netherlands. |
| 2. | M/s. SLT Lab. instruments India Pvt. Ltd., Delhi | Photometric auto analyser microplate elisa reader and accessories. | M/s. SLT Lab. Instruments, GmbH Austria. |
| 3. | M/s. Mayur Software, Bangalore. | Development of Software and standard package. | M/s. Peacock Systems International Inc., USA. |
| 4. | M/s. Opax Technology (P) Ltd., Madras. | Instruments. | Omex Technology (P) Ltd., Singapore. |
| 5. | M/s. Vidyut Cables (P) Ltd., Hyderabad. | Printed Circuit Boards. | HTC Engineering Corp., USA. |
| 6. | M/s. EKT Materials Technology America Ltd , Madras. | Copper foils. | ETK Technology Inc., USA. |
| 7. | M/s. NCR Corporation, USA, Delhi. | Software and Services. | NCR Corporation, USA. |
| 8. | M/s. Modern Software (I) Pvt. Ltd. | Computer Software. | M/s. Modena Software Inc., USA. |
| 9. | M/s. Sri Ramakrishna Hi-Tech System Ltd. | Computer Software & Associated Services. | NRI equity participation. |